

**(c) Remarks**

First, the applicant and his attorney would like to thank the examiner for the kind, courteous, and professional manner in which she conducted the interview at her office on April 15, 2005, and for the helpful suggestions offered by her at that time.

The amendments offered herein are believed to have traversed the examiner's rejections, first, by indicating that the percentages of materials present in the membranes of the current invention are by weight, as disclosed in the examples of the disclosure, where the amounts of the components were stipulated in parts by weight.

For instance, in example 1, 17 parts by weight, UHMWPE ( $M_{wt} = 1 \times 10^6$ ) and 3 parts by weight  $TiO_2$ , is equivalent to weight percentages of 85% UHMWPE and 15%  $TiO_2$ .

In example 2, 18 parts by weight, UHMWPE ( $M_{wt} = 1 \times 10^6$ ) and 2 parts by weight  $TiO_2$ , is equivalent to weight percentages of 90% UHMWPE and 10%  $TiO_2$ .

In example 3, 19 parts by weight, UHMWPE ( $M_{wt} = 1 \times 10^6$ ) and 1 part by weight  $TiO_2$ , is equivalent to weight percentages of 95% UHMWPE and 5%  $TiO_2$ .

In example 5, 8 parts by weight, UHMWPE ( $M_{wt} = 3 \times 10^6$ ), 10 parts by weight low molecular weight polyethylene and 2 parts by weight  $TiO_2$ , is approximately equivalent to weight percentages of 40% UHMWPE, 50% low molecular weight polyethylene and 10%  $TiO_2$ .

In example 6, 8 parts by weight, UHMWPE ( $M_{wt} = 3 \times 10^6$ ), 9 parts by weight low molecular weight polyethylene and 2 parts by weight  $TiO_2$ , is approximately equivalent to weight percentages of 42% UHMWPE, 47% low molecular weight polyethylene and 11%  $TiO_2$ .

In example 7, 4 parts by weight, UHMWPE ( $M_{wt} = 3 \times 10^6$ ), 5 parts by weight low molecular weight polyethylene and 6 parts by weight  $TiO_2$  is, approximately equivalent to weight percentages of 27% UHMWPE, 33% low molecular weight polyethylene and 40%  $TiO_2$

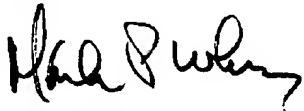
In example 8, 4 parts by weight, UHMWPE ( $M_{wt} = 3 \times 10^6$ ), 4 parts by weight low molecular weight polyethylene and 6 parts by weight  $TiO_2$  is, approximately equivalent to weight percentages of 29% UHMWPE, 29% low molecular weight polyethylene and 42%  $TiO_2$ .

In example 9, 1 parts by weight, UHMWPE ( $M_{wt} = 3 \times 10^6$ ), 0 parts by weight low molecular weight polyethylene and 6 parts by weight  $TiO_2$  is, approximately equivalent to weight percentages of 14% UHMWPE, 0% low molecular weight polyethylene and 86%  $TiO_2$ , (note: example 4 is only used as control, not included in the claims).

For the foregoing reasons, the Applicant submits that the Shutdown Separator with Improved Properties as disclosed and claimed in the present application is not fairly taught by any of the references of record, either taken alone or in combination. Therefore, allowance of the present application is in order, and is requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees do to my deposit account No. 231706.

Respectfully submitted

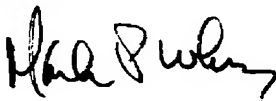


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I hereby certify that this SECOND AMENDMENT is being transmitted, by FAX, addressed to:  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date shown below, and to the  
FAX number shown below.

Addressee FAX number 703-872-9306  
Addressee USPTO, Box Amendments  
signed and transmitted on: April 14, 2005



by

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Mark P White